Industry is prohibited by Government in the Ministry of Labour, under Sec. 10 (1) of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970:

(a)1. Raising or Raising-cum-Selling of Coal.

2. Coal Loading and unloading.

3. Overburden removal and earth cutting.

4. Soft-coke manufacturing.

5. Driving of stone drifts and miscellaneous stone cutting underground.

6. Sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings.

7. Unloading of Raw Coal.

8. Charging of magnetite.

9. Plant cleaning including removal of spoilage, waste, muck cleaning, Magnetite removal etc.

10. Transport of middlings in coal washeries.

11. Removal of slurry in coal washeries.

(b) and (c). At times heavy earth moving machinery hired alongwith operators for meeting the demands on productions, as the coal companies are not in a position to invest substantially in Heavy Earth Moving Machinery. The jobs at No. (10) & (11) in reply to part (a) were prohibited by orders dated 11.12.1990 and the concerned coal companies expressed some difficulties in implementing the same. But for this, contractors are not engaged in prohibited categories of work.

(d) and (e). Abolition of engagement of contract labour does not confer any right on the existing contract labour for regularisation under the coal companies. The question of considering such work force for regularisation, subject to their suitability, and subject to requirement, can arise only in cases where the jobs done by the contract labour can not be managed by alternative mechanical means or the existing surplus work force in the companies can not be gainfully employed for doing such jobs.

[*Translation*]

Payment of Service Charges By ONGC

6333. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has to pay service charges to some companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the ONGC is likely to pay these charges?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ONGC pays service charges to various companies for services including drilling, testing and repair of wells, transportation, pipeline maintenance, canteen services, etc.

(c) The payments are made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.